Atty. Docket No.: PR60397USw

10/572,974

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Withdrawn) A method for treating liver fibrosis in a mammalian subject comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an FXR agonist.
- 2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the FXR agonist is a compound of Formula (II)

$$R^2$$
 R^2
 R^3
 R^4
 R^4

wherein X^1 is CH or N; X^2 is O or NH; R and R^1 are independently H, lower alkyl, halogen, or CF₃; R^2 is lower alkyl; R^3 and R^4 are independently H, lower alkyl, halogen, CF₃, OH, O-alkyl, or O-polyhaloalkyl.

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3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the FXR agonist comprises a compound of Formula (I):

- 4. (Original) A method of reducing or preventing development of liver fibrosis comprising administering to a mammalian subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of an FXR agonist.
- 5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the FXR agonist comprises a compound of Formula (II)-(I):

$$R^2$$
 R^2
 R^3
 R^4

wherein X^1 is CH or N; X^2 is O or NH; R and R^1 are independently H, lower alkyl, halogen, or CF₃; R^2 is lower alkyl; R^3 and R^4 are independently H, lower alkyl, halogen, CF₃, OH, O-alkyl, or O-polyhaloalkyl.

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6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the FXR agonist comprises a compound of Formula (I)-(II):

- 7 (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 where said FXR agonist is not a naturally occurring bile acid.
- 8. (Original) A method according to claim 4 where said FXR agonist is not a naturally occurring bile acid.
- 9. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 where said FXR agonist is a synthetic small molecule organic compound.
- 10. (Original) A method according to claim 4 where said FXR agonist is a synthetic small molecule organic compound.
- 11. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 9 where a naturally occurring bile acid is administered concurrently with said FXR agonist.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10 where a naturally occur<u>ring</u> bile acid is administered concurrently with said FXR agonist.